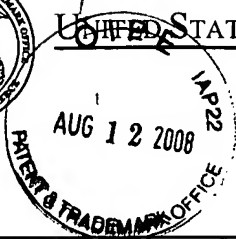




UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



IFW

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/584,084

06/22/2006

Hiroyuki Takahashi

128466

8761

25944

7590

08/12/2008

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC

P.O. BOX 320850

ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850

EXAMINER

LYJAK, LORI LYNN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3612

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/12/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/584,084		TAKAHASHI ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Lori L. Lyjak		3612	

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 June 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6 and 7 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 June 2008 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Claims 6 and 7 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected inventions, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on May 22, 2008.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by European reference 0 952 046.

Regarding claim 1, European reference '046 discloses a vehicular bumper structure comprising: a bumper reinforcement that extends along a vehicle width direction; plural load detection sensors disposed at a vehicle body outer side surface of the bumper reinforcement; and a load transmitting plate that is made of resinous material or metal, has predetermined rigidity and is disposed at vehicle body outer side surfaces of the plural load detection sensors; wherein the rigidity is such that, when a certain load acts in a longitudinal direction of the vehicle body, the load transmitting plate does not contact a front wall of the bumper reinforcement between adjacent sensors of the load detection sensors.

Regarding claim 2, European reference '046 discloses the vehicular bumper structure of claim 1, wherein the plural load detection sensors are dispersed and disposed in a vehicle body vertical direction.

Regarding claim 3, European reference '046 discloses the vehicular bumper structure of claim 1, wherein the plural load detection sensors are dispersed and disposed in the vehicle width direction, and the load transmitting plate is divided in the vehicle width direction.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lori L. Lyjak whose telephone number is 571-272-6658. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Dayoan can be reached on 571-272-6659. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Application/Control Number: 10/584,084
Art Unit: 3612

Page 4

/Lori L. Lyjak/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3612

III
August 5, 2008

Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 1/06)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 128466		APPLICATION NO. 10/584,084	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Hiroyuki TAKAHASHI et al.			
				FILING DATE June 22, 2006		GROUP 3612	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Name			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Country	With English Abstract	With English Translation	
/LL/	1	JP-U-62-088929	06/06/1987	Japan		X	
OTHER DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
/Lori Lyjak/				08/04/2008			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: November 8, 2007

10/584084
PATENT APPLICATION
AP3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 22 JUN 2006
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hiroyuki TAKAHASHI et al.

Application No.: New U.S. National Phase of PCT/JP2004/019281

Filed: June 22, 2006

Docket No.: 128466

For: VEHICULAR BUMPER STRUCTURE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

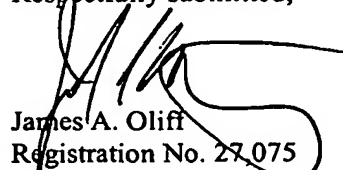
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. One or more reference cited herein was cited in the International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 2-7.
- ☒ 3. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- ☒ 4. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 4-5 & 8.
- ☒ 5. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 5 & 8.
- ☒ 6. Reference 1 corresponds to reference 3.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/nxy

Date: June 22, 2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone (703) 836-4400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION

Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPTED FROM RECORD THROUGH. /LL/

10/584084

AP3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 22 JUN 2006

Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 1/06)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 128466		APPLICATION NO. New U.S. National Phase of PCT/JP2004/019281	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Hiroyuki TAKAHASHI et al.			
				FILING DATE June 22, 2006			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Name			
	1.	6,212,456 B1	04/03/2001	STRIDE			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Country	With English Abstract	With English Translation	
	2.	EP 0 978 425 A1	02/09/2000	EUROPE			
	3.	EP 0 952 046 A2	10/27/1999	EUROPE			
	4.	JP-A-61-188253	08/21/1986	JAPAN	X		
	5.	JP-A-11-028994	02/02/1999	JAPAN	X	X	
	6.	DE 197 18 803 C1	10/22/1998	GERMANY			
	7.	DE 101 13 720 A1	09/26/2002	GERMANY			
	8.	JP-A-2000-225907	08/15/2000	JAPAN	X	X	
OTHER DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
/Lori Lyjak/				08/04/2008			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

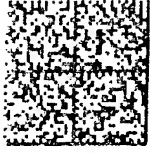
Date: June 22, 2006

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /LL/

Organization **IC 3600** Bldg/Room **KNO**
U. S. Department of Commerce
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
If Undeliverable Return in Ten Days

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



\$01.17
0004244575 AUG 1 2008
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 22313

